



Primary Source Analysis Worksheet

adapted from National Archives and Records Administration
Ohio Women Vote: 100 Years of Change

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Objective

Analyze the impact of 19th century and early 20th century social movements (abolitionism, temperance, education reform, etc.) on the women's suffrage movement.

In your response you should:

- Respond to the prompt with a historically defensible thesis or claim that establishes a line of reasoning.
- Describe a broader historical context relevant to the prompt.
- Support an argument in response to the prompt using at least six documents.
- Use at least one additional piece of specific historical evidence (beyond that found in the documents) relevant to an argument about the prompt.
- For at least three documents, explain how or why the document's point of view, purpose, historical situation, and/or audience is relevant to an argument.
- Use evidence to corroborate, qualify, or modify an argument that addresses the prompt.



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Documents

Document 1:

The government of this country, in common with all others, has never recognised or attempted to protect women as persons possessing the rights of humanity. They have been recognised and protected as appendages to men, without independent rights or political existence—unknown to the law except as victims of its caprice and tyranny. This government, having therefore exercised powers underived from the consent of the governed, and having signally failed to secure the end for which all just government is instituted, should be immediately altered or abolished.

Source: Ohio Women's Convention Proceedings, 1850
<https://ohiomemory.org/digital/collection/p267401coll36/id/16598>

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Document 2



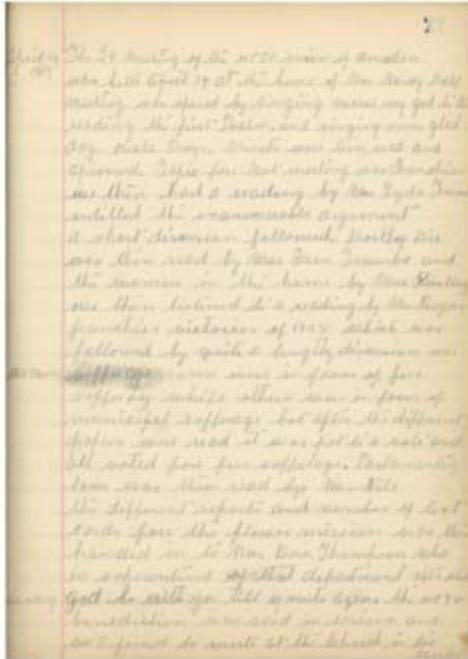
Source: Suffrage Handbill, 1910

<https://ohiomemory.org/digital/collection/p267401coll36/id/21662>

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Document 3



Source: Amsden, Ohio Woman's Christian Temperance Union Minutes, April 14, 1909
<https://ohiomemory.org/digital/collection/p267401coll36/id/939>

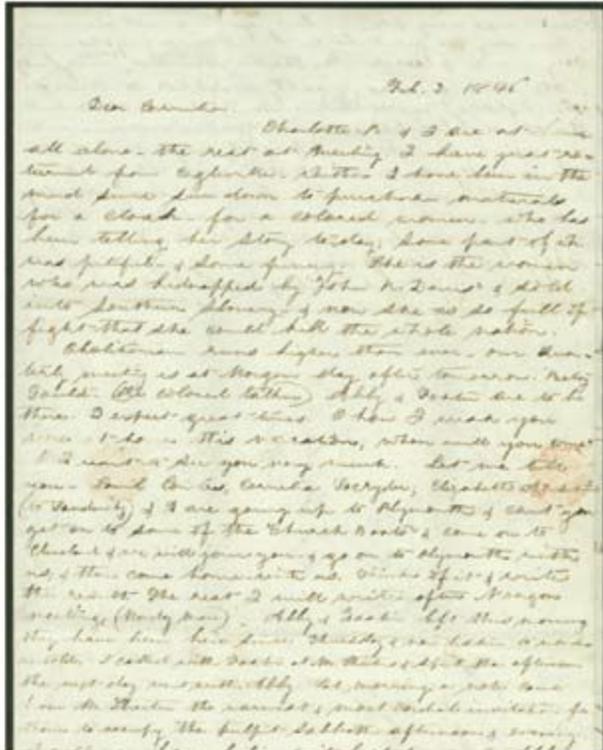
Excerpted from the document:

The 36 meeting of the WCTU Union of Amsden was held April 14 at the home of Mrs. Nancy Hall...We then listened to a reading by Mrs Rogers franchise victories of 1908 which was followed by quite a lengthy discussion on women's suffrage some were in favor of free suffrage while others were in favor of municipal suffrage, but after the different papers were read it was put to a vote and all voted for free suffrage...The WCTU benediction was said in unison and we adjourned to meet at the Church in two weeks.

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Document 4



Source: Betsy Mix Cowles Letter Regarding Anti-Slavery Activity, 1846
<https://ohiomemory.org/digital/collection/p267401coll36/id/2610>

Excerpted from the document:

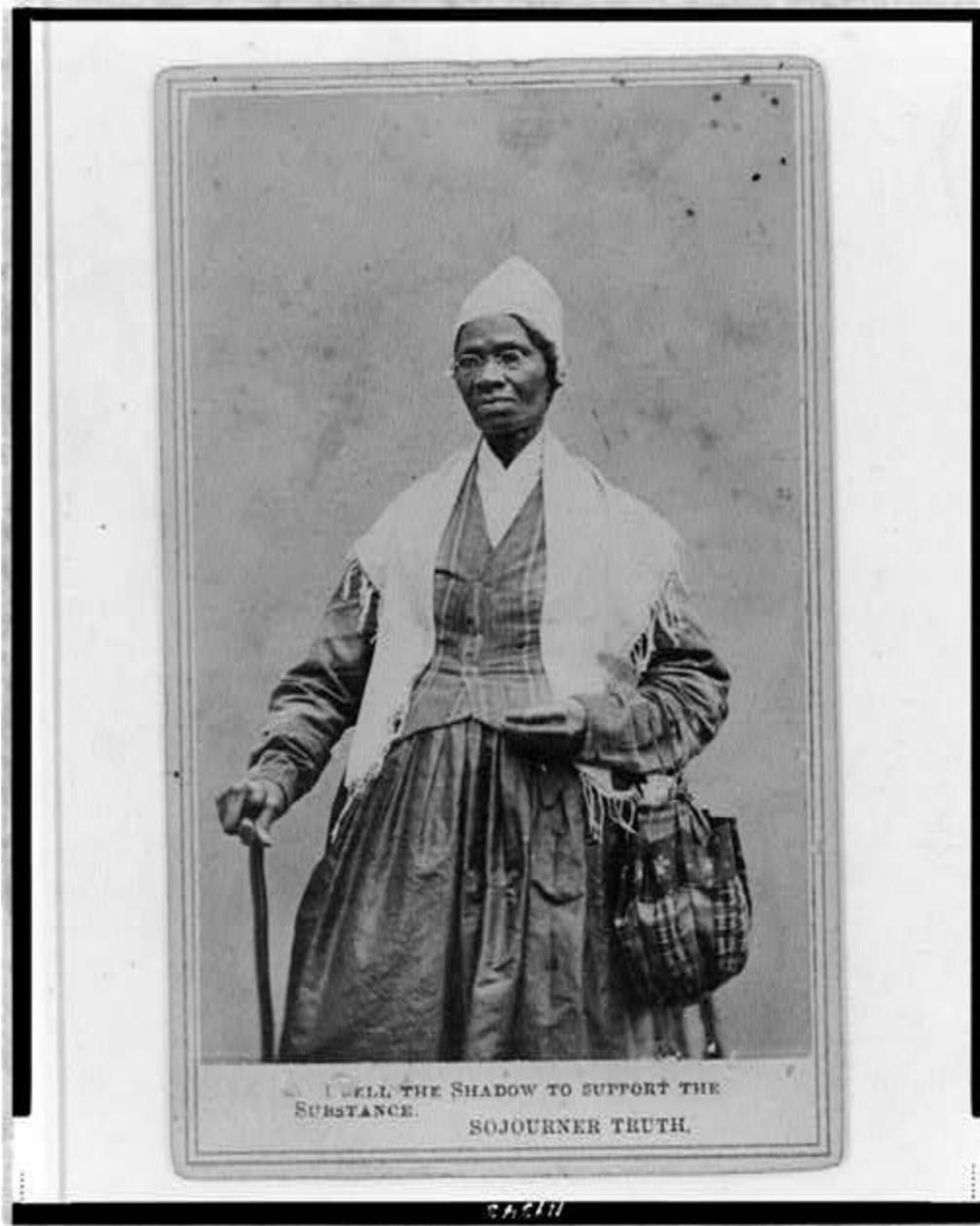
Dear Cornelia,

Charlotte B. & I are at home all alone, the rest at meeting. I have just returned from Eagleville, whither I have been in the mud since sun down to purchase materials for a cloak - for a colored woman - who has been telling her story today, some part of which was pitiful & some funny. She is the woman who was kidnapped by "John R. Davis" & sold into southern slavery and now she is so full of fight that she could kill the whole nation. Abolitionism runs higher than ever. Our quarterly meeting is at Morgan day after tomorrow. "Betsy Gould" (the colored talker) Abby & Foster are to be there. I expect great times. O how I wish you were at home this vacation; when will you come?

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Document 5



Source: Sojourner Truth, Three-Quarter Length Portrait, 1864
<https://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/97513239/>

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Document 6

Ohio Woman Suffrage Association

<p>HONORARY PRESIDENT FRANCES M. CASEMENT Painesville</p> <p>PRESIDENT HARRIET TAYLOR UPTON Warren</p>	 <p>LET OHIO WOMEN VOTE</p>	<p>CORRESPONDING SECRETARY ETHEL R. VORCE 1678 East 73 St., Cleveland</p> <p>TREASURER ZELL HART DEMING Warren</p> <p>AUDITOR DORA SANDOE BACHMAN Eberly Building, Columbus</p> <p>MEMBER NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HELLE COIT KELTON 51 N. Monroe St., Columbus</p>
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HEADQUARTERS: MASONIC BLDG., WARREN, OHIO

 Jan. 14, 1913.

No intelligent and conscientious citizen can be indifferent to the social problems of our times. Pure food laws, contagious disease acts, building codes, the water supply, gas rates, police and fire regulations, rents, taxes, wages, the cost of living, child labor, the white slave traffic, the enactment and administration of laws relating to public schools, to gamblers, to the liquor business - all of these are matters of health and morals and every one of them intimately affects the lives of men, women and children. Every one of these matters, too, is within the realm of politics. To live up to the responsibilities which nature and society have forced upon them, women must be elevated to citizenship. They must be given the power to perform their duties.

Source: Harriet Taylor Upton, Ohio Women's Suffrage Association Letter, January 14, 1913
<https://ohiomemory.org/digital/collection/p267401coll36/id/16228>

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Document 7



Source: Woman Suffrage Headquarters in Upper Euclid Avenue, 1912
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/cph.3a52979>



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Worksheet

Meet the document.

What is it?

- Photograph
- Written document
- Artifact or object
- Poster
- Map
- Cartoon
- Video
- Sound recording
- Artwork

What do you see? Describe it as if you were explaining it to someone who can't see it.

Observe its parts.

Who created it?

Who read, received or viewed it?

When is it from?

Where is it from?



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Try to make sense of it.

What is the main idea?

Why was it created?

What evidence from the item helps you answer these questions?

What was happening at the time in history this document was created?

Use it as historical evidence.

What did you find out from this item that you might not learn anywhere else?

What other documents and historical evidence are you going to use to help you understand this event or topic?